



**KING COUNTY ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 2005**

Members Present: Linda Brown, Joan Clement, Michelle DiMiscio, Dan Foley (nominee), Tim King, Mary Alice Knotts, Narayan Gangadhar (nominee)

Members Absent: Dana Boales (excused), Roger Goodman (excused), Jenna Henderson (unexcused), Larry Hill (excused), Yasmin Smith (excused)

Guests Present: Bob Akers/Bruce Mulvey, Northshore Youth Family Services; Harvey Funai/Bob Leonard, DASA-Region 4; Pat Godfrey (board candidate); Arden James, Seattle Mental Health; Kelli Nomura, Community Psychiatric Clinic; Cathy Speelmon, Seattle Counseling Services

Staff Present: Mike Elsner, Rhoda Naguit, Jim Vollendroff, Kris Zawisza

Board Chair Linda Brown convened the King County Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Administrative Board meeting at 12:01 p.m. The meeting was held at Mount Olympus Room of DASA Region IV offices, located at 400 Mercer Street, 6th floor, Seattle.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Linda Brown welcomed everyone present and asked that they introduce themselves. She commented that some board members have given her advanced notice about their absence at the meeting –Roger Goodman is out of town on company business, Dana Boales is attending a mandatory office retreat, Larry Hill and Yasmin Smith.

II. MINUTES

Joan Clement made a motion, which was seconded by Tim King, to approve the minutes from the November 15, 2005 Board Planning Retreat as submitted. The motion was passed unanimously.

III. PROVIDERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arden James of Seattle Mental Health shared that their agency is serving approximately 200 deaf clients with about half having a co-occurring chemical dependency problem. The agency needs resources to provide interpreters for these clients. Mary Alice Knotts recommended they connect with central office of Alcoholic Anonymous for a list of volunteer sign language/interpreter from their organization.

IV. PRESENTATION – CRIMINAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES EVALUATION

Debra Srebnic, the evaluator for the Criminal Justice Initiatives project, distributed handouts and gave a brief overview of the Criminal Justice Initiative and discussed some of the preliminary findings of the evaluation. The data are from the first year of implementation and Debra stressed that the findings should be viewed as preliminary given the early, short-term nature of the data.

The early findings on jail bookings are somewhat contradictory. Debra thinks that the findings will become much clearer when the next data set that will include a longer time frame is added to the analysis. Preliminary clinical outcome findings suggest a significant reduction in substance use and mental health symptoms for individuals who received COD treatment. Twenty percent of these individuals were able to access housing.

Debra summarized the preliminary findings as follows. Over 4,000 individuals interacted with the CJI project in the first year of implementation. Individuals placed in COD treatment and those who received housing vouchers had a significant reduction in number of jail bookings. The overall number of jail days increased. Participants were most satisfied with the program components of accessibility, staff, recovery focus, and intersystem communication. The program needs to strengthen housing options, access to medical staff who prescribe medication, and staff retention.

Debra will report to the board again in February or March of 2006 when the next analysis is completed.

V. LEGISLATIVE FORUM REPORT

Board Chair Linda Brown reported on the Legislative Forum held on December 8. Overall, it was a very successful event. Approximately 150-200 people and 11 legislators/aides attended. There were strong testimonials from two CD consumers about treatment and its impact on their recovery. The three CD legislative priorities presented to the legislators were (1) Residential treatment capacity in King County; (2) Substance Abuse Treatment funding for non-Medicaid clients; (3) support for the supplemental budget request that the Children's Administration will make to increase the number of CDPs who will work with DCFS staff to facilitate referral to CD treatment.

Linda noted that the CD board was not well represented at the Legislative Forum and asked that Board members get the event on their calendars early and plan to attend the next forum. It is vital for board members to be visible in this type of event.

Joan Clement recommended sending Roger Goodman a "Thank You" note for a superb job as Master of Ceremony. Linda will do this.

Narayan Gangadhar inquired about the one-tenth of one percent sales tax discussed at the last Board Planning Retreat. He wanted to know if the County can utilize this as a potential funding source. Linda stated that King County Council has not acted on it at this time. Spokane and Jefferson have put this on their ballot and passed.

The board will formulate a position on this one-tenth of one- percent sales tax issue in the near future. We need to work with legislators to get this issue forward. Jim reminded the Board that if the one-tenth of one- percent sales tax should be approved, it would provide a very good source of funding for new and/or expanded CD and MH programs.

V. RECOVERY GARDEN UPDATE

The project continues to move ahead. Cobblestones are still available and need to be sold. Members were asked to continue to encourage people to buy stones. There is a misconception that the sale of cobblestones is over. The Recovery Garden Work group will continue to work with agencies and other groups sell more stones to finance the Garden.

Board Chair Linda Brown attended a recent Delridge Park Community meeting where the revised plans for the Park were reviewed. While some of the park renovation has been scaled back due to budget constraints, there are no changes in the Recovery Garden design. The project is being re-bid to make the budget target. Work on the project should start in March/April with an anticipated completion date of September or October 2006.

VI. CDP SHORTAGE WORKGROUP REPORT

The workgroup continues to gather information from DASA and the Board of Health. A number of groups are working on the issue and the Board workgroup is coordinating with the other groups. Jean Phillips, the DASA staff person working on the issue, reported on a meeting with the Board of Health. The BOH is planning two information-gathering panels in January/February. The Workgroup will provide information about the panel as soon as it is available.

Dan Foley noted the absence of information on qualifications for CDP and the certification process in the board orientation manual. This will be added in the orientation manual.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Board and Commission Recognition Event

Board Chair Linda Brown thanked board members who attended the Board and Commission Appreciation Night sponsored by King County Council on Monday, December 5, 2005.

B. 1811 Eastlake Grand Opening

The grand opening of 1811 Eastlake facility will be held at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

C. Change of Meeting Date

Starting January 2006, the regular board meeting will be on the **first Thursday** of the month from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. at Safeco Jackson Street Center, 306 23rd Avenue S. in Seattle.

VIII. BOARD LIAISON

King County Mental Health Advisory Board, CD Youth Agency Executive Director's Meeting – Linda Brown

The Mental Health Advisory Board continues to struggle with funding cuts for non-Medicaid services which will be in effect January 2006.

The Executive Directors of CD Youth agencies met last week and discussed contract expectations. They also asked that CD issues receive the same priority and consideration as MH issues in the Department. Given the crisis nature of MH funding in King County there is some concern that CD issues may get lost. Linda assured them that they have the support of the Board in this concern.

IX. BOARD MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Nancy Code, Board Vice Chair, has tendered her resignation from the board due to conflict in her work schedule. Linda read Nancy's letter to the board. Linda will respond to the letter on behalf of the Board.

X. COORDINATOR'S REPORT

A. King County Assessment Center Closure

Jim Vollendroff met with the King County Assessment Center staff last week to review the financial situation of the Assessment Center. Several changes at the

State level have had a serious impact on Assessment Center funding and the County can no longer afford to maintain the Assessment Center. These changes include cuts related to changes in TANF and the impact of Title 19 clients no longer using the AC for residential placement. With regret, Jim announced the closing of the AC at the end of February 2006. Assessments will be decentralized at that time.

Jim stressed that the closing has nothing to do with staff performance and praised the work of the AC staff.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Prepared by:

Attested by:

Rhoda A. Naguit
Recording Secretary

Linda Brown
Board Chair